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FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

CHINA.

Hongkong—Plague—Plague-Infected Rats.

Surg. Brown reports: During the week ended July 27 there were reported at Hongkong 22 cases of plague with 19 deaths.

During the same period there were examined for plague infection 1,180 rats, of which number 7 were found infected.

HAWAII.

Death from Plague—Plague-Infected Rat Found.

A death from plague occurred September 13, 1912, at Pepekeo, Hawaii, in the person of a Japanese rat catcher. A plague-infected rat was found at Olaa, Hawaii, September 9, 1912.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Manila—Plague.

Passed Asst. Surg. Victor G. Heiser, chief quarantine officer and director of health for the Philippine Islands, reports: During the week ended August 10, 1912, there were reported at Manila 2 cases of plague with 2 deaths.

These cases of plague occurred on August 4, 1912, and were the first cases discovered since June 29, 1912. The victims were students of the San Juan de Letran College, Filipinos, males, aged 14 and 16 years, respectively. One lived at number 27 Calle Villalobos, and the other at number 37 Calle Villalobos. So far as could be ascertained, the boys did not attend the same classes, nor were they companions in any way, either inside or outside of the school. There is no history of sick or dead rats being found in the houses, or vicinity, in which the victims lived, and the rats that have been caught there since the discovery of the cases have all been negative for plague.

Over 4,000 rats have now been caught in Manila, in the vicinity of localities in which plague cases have occurred, and, so far, no plague rats have been encountered. In the case of rats in which there are enlarged glands, smear inoculations are made from selected material upon the scarified surface of guinea pigs. So far, none of the latter have developed plague.

The total number of plague cases since the outbreak began, June 19, is four.